

Executive Registry
63-8403

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE IN FULL 1995

6 November 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, United States Intelligence Board

SUBJECT : Classification Level of DIA Intelligence Briefings Given 9999th Air Reserve Squadron

1. This memorandum is for the information of the Chairman, USIB.

2. At an executive session of the USIB in June, Mr. Thomas Hughes of the Department of State expressed concern over the classification of information contained in weekly current intelligence briefings given by Air Force officers in DIA to the 9999th Air Reserve Squadron, commanded by Major General Barry M. Goldwater. Mr. Hughes believed that some of the briefings, which are supposed to be conducted at a SECRET level, had drawn on information from the more highly classified Central Intelligence Bulletin and the DIA Intelligence Summary.

3. In order to facilitate investigation, DIA was requested to provide a list of subjects covered in the current intelligence briefings cited by Mr. Hughes. The only records available from DIA consist of lists of subjects covered in the briefings on 28 May and 4, 11, and 18 June. These briefings are regularly prepared by the DIA briefing officer, working from the previous week's file of the DIA Intelligence Bulletin, DIA's SECRET-level daily publication. This document is used as the basis of the briefings, according to DIA, in order to ensure that the briefings do not contain information above the level of SECRET.

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

USIB *[signature]*

4. The DIA briefing officer speaks from rough notes, so that there is no written record of the content of the briefings. This leaves open the possibility of an ad lib comment, or a response to a question, which would inadvertently exceed prescribed classification levels, but there is no way of determining after the fact whether this has occurred.

5. An examination of the subjects listed for the four briefings in question shows that a worthwhile briefing could in fact have been given on each topic within the limitations of a SECRET classification. All of the briefing subjects, listed in the attachment were covered in the same time span by SECRET current intelligence publications. Reporting on these subjects in the Central Intelligence Bulletin during the period in question included COMINT, TOP SECRET, and BACKGROUND USE ONLY material. However, because transcripts or recordings of the briefings are not available, there is no way of determining whether any of the sensitive material was exposed in the reserve briefings.



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R. J. SMITH  
Acting Deputy Director (Intelligence)

Discretionary Page  
63-84031

*er file*

8 November 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director *W*

1. As background for the attached, you probably recall that Tom Hughes, at a USIB meeting last June, registered his deep concern over the kinds of information being imparted to the Air Force Reserve unit on Capitol Hill commanded by Senator Goldwater. Though the briefings are given by DIA, they include, according to Hughes, a great many sensitive political subjects. Mr. McCone asked DIA to give him a list of the topics covered at recent reserve meetings, and upon receipt of the list, DD/I was asked to assess the damage that might have been done.

2. The list contained insufficient detail for DD/I to do a meaningful job on this. In any case, after reading the attached, DDCI thinks that it is a pretty bland memo, that there remains a need to do what can be done to keep the DIA briefings, and others like them, low-keyed. He also noted that it took DD/I almost five months to come up with this memo which he thinks is too long.

3. The General asks what should be done now. I am not certain whether it should go back to DD/I for staff work, whether it ought to be given to Bannerman to look into or perhaps put the whole subject back on a USIB Agenda for further discussion. Would appreciate your advice. **ILLEGIB**

STAT

Attachment: (ER 63-8403)

Memo To Chairman USIB from Act. DD/I  
"Classification Level of DIA Intelligence  
Briefings Given 9999th Air Reserve Squadron"

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTTO : Mr. 

DATE: 12 November 1963

FROM : Executive Secretary, USIB

SUBJECT: Classification Level of DIA Intelligence Briefings Given  
9999th Air Reserve Squadron

1. I do not believe any further USIB action is necessary on this matter since (a) the information on the subjects covered in these briefings was requested by the DCI personally from General Carroll, and (b) there does not appear to be any basis for determining whether prescribed classification levels were exceeded.

2. I would therefore recommend, with the concurrence of Jack Smith, that:

(a) The attached report be noted by the DCI.

(b) The DCI direct DDI (Ray Cline or Jack Smith) to advise Mr. Hughes orally of the general findings reported in the attachments.

~~SECRET~~  
MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Kirkpatrick *JK*

*LBTL*  
Today, 26 November, I think   
 has the right idea. I'll tell the  
DCI about this, and suggest Cline then  
speak to Hughes - or forget the whole  
thing. o.k. ?

26 Nov 63  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

~~SECRET~~  
FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-111  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		DATE	INITIALS	
1	DCI				
2					
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ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE	
<b>Remarks:</b> This report winds up a small piece of unfinished USIB business raised when Tom Hughes complained about the classification of DIA briefings given Sen. Goldwater's Air Force reserve unit. Since transcripts of the briefings are not available there is no way of knowing whether the briefings actually exceeded prescribed classification levels. In each case, however, a worthwhile briefing could have been given within the limitations of a SECRET classification.					
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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.				DATE	
A/DDI <i>RY</i> UNCLASSIFIED				7E32 Hqs CONFIDENTIAL 11/6/63 SECRET	